

Date: Sat, 10 Jul 93 04:30:19 PDT
From: Ham-Policy Mailing List and Newsgroup <ham-policy@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Ham-Policy-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Ham-Policy@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Ham-Policy Digest V93 #221
To: Ham-Policy

Ham-Policy Digest Sat, 10 Jul 93 Volume 93 : Issue 221

Today's Topics:

 antenna restrictions
 Give a VE \$5.60, walk out with a ham license...
 Lost petition for VHF/UHF beams (2 msgs)
 old coots.
 The Solution (Was: Lost petition for VHF/UHF beams)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Ham-Policy@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Ham-Policy-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Ham-Policy Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/ham-policy".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 9 Jul 1993 21:42:01 -0500
From: swrinde!cs.utexas.edu!geraldo.cc.utexas.edu!emx.cc.utexas.edu!not-for-
mail@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: antenna restrictions
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

dstock@hpbqoca.sqf.hp.com (David Stockton GM4ZNX) sets himself up:

>>Do the petition gatherers have any peccadilloes ?

Probably not - if they don't allow outside antennas, I would bet wild
animals are right out.

(For non-Texans, peccadillos are a cross between peccaries (a sort
of wild pig) and armadillos (little things in shells that are born
as quadruplets). The result is a sort of pig in a hard shell that
makes them rather tough eating, thus reducing the number of predators.

Derek Wills (AA5BT, G3NMX)
Department of Astronomy, University of Texas,
Austin TX 78712. (512-471-1392)
oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu

Date: Fri, 9 Jul 1993 14:49:06 EST
From: anomaly.sbs.com!kd1nr!news@uunet.uu.net
Subject: Give a VE \$5.60, walk out with a ham license...
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

partos@larry.larc.nasa.gov (Dick Partos) writes:

> I don't see your problem with assigning a temporary call to someone
> who's successfully passed all requirements for a license. Why force
> someone to wait 8-10 weeks just for the paperwork to slog its way
> through the bureocracy? Is this just another example of "I had to do
> it, so you do too"?

No, but it opens up a Pandora's Box of abuses.

Tony Pelliccio kd1nr/ae "Usenet is like a herd of performing elephants
!~!~*!~*!~*!~*!~*!~* with diarrhea -- massive, difficult to
system@garlic.sbs.com redirect, awe-inspiring, entertaining, and a
Ctrl Op 441.750 ARRL VE source of mind-boggling amounts of excrement
----- when you least expect it." --spaf (1992)

Date: Fri, 9 Jul 1993 12:22:16 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!apollo.hp.com!hpwin052!hpqmoea!dstock@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Lost petition for VHF/UHF beams
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

Perhaps now is the time for Todd to drop out of amateur radio for a few years to achieve his ambition of transcribing the works of Stravinsky and Bartok for the trombone and bagpipes respectively.

I live in a place where the deeds ban all external antennae. My neighbours lend me their ladders and often help whenever I mess about with these forbidden structures. OK I have nothing large enough to be noticed from much distance, but no matter what one does, it is wise to be able to tell the reasonable from the ridiculous. I've had the usual

cases of TVI and phone problems, which were all reported to me in friendly "is there anything we can do" terms. This is no miracle or incredible luck. Long before I got re-interested in amateur radio I was the bloke who welded bits back on the neighbours kids bikes, removed jam toast from the occasional VHS machine and generally would take the time to help neighbours out if they came with a problem. Just pause and think how helpless the majority are in technical matters, and so how valuable someone is who can be relied on for guidance. I wondered what would happen about new folk moving in, but it seems that the rest give them a thorough briefing!

I've certainly been lucky. I don't suppose it would yield the same results in all cases, but it certainly loads the dice favourably. You are not alone, the guy a few doors away who buys, fixes and sells the occasional car in his spare time is also relying on tolerance, after things have gone badly may be too late to remind them, though.

Do the petition gatherers have any peccadilloes ?

Cheers

David GM4ZNX

Date: Fri, 9 Jul 1993 18:07:07 GMT
From: pa.dec.com!nntpd2.cxo.dec.com!nuts2u.enet.dec.com!little@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Lost petition for VHF/UHF beams
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

dave@llondel.demon.co.uk (David Hough) writes:

>In that case, isn't it a shame that a *lower* antenna will cause a greater
>field strength around all these items and thus increase any potential
>problems :-)
>
>Added to the fact that you will need to run more power to compensate for the
>lower antenna height.
>
>I doubt if it will change anything but you could bring up the subject cos
>it might give you some amusement.

I pointed this out at both the zoning board of appeals meeting (where volunteers as opposed to elected bureaucrats rule and I got their approval) and at the Building, Planning, and Zoning Commission meeting, but it was lost on deaf ears. As far as I can tell, their minds were made up before I even showed up. I pointed out:

- The need for effective antennas

- Emergency communications provided such as during emergencies, bad weather (SKYWARN), health and welfare traffic, parades and other public events
- I'm an active member of our RACES and ESDA group
- The relationship of height and power requirements and their impact on interference and station effectiveness
- The need to cooperatively work out interference problems (during the 9 months the antennas had been up, I received 1 call from the neighbor behind me, who hung up on me when I tried to explain that the low pass filter someone had suggested to him wasn't an option in VHF/UHF communication.)
- That nearly every surrounding community (both with more and less expensive properties) allow significantly higher antennas

Other hams at the meeting pointed out:

- The services provided by RACES, ARES, SKYWARN, MARS, etc.
- The technical accomplishments of amateurs and that we're a technology oriented society
- FCC regulations regarding antenna heights
- FCC regulations regarding interference and Part 15 rules
- Many other favorable points

Even though we're in a tornado prone area and that the nearby town of Plainfield, IL was nearly wiped off the map without warning 2 years ago by a tornado, these people I'm sure believe "it won't happen to us". I'm always amazed by the ability of people to think they're going to win a lottery with a 1 in 13 million chance of winning, but that they're not going to be affected by something much more probable and deadly.

We'll continue to try public relations such as having a RACES booth complete with stations set up for a local village festival coming up later this month and other events. I still hold little hope for a more favorable response in the future.

I made a choice 3 years ago (before getting licensed) to move here because of the schools and that I have 2 and 8/9's children. I might have moved somewhere else had I been able to foresee this, but moving now is a pretty significant event to pursue a hobby. If I move again, I'll certainly be forewarned and forearmed.

Like I said in some previous posts, I believe that restrictive zoning laws and CRRs are going to push U.S. amateurs out of much of suburban America and potentially into oblivion.

73,
Todd
N9MWB

Date: 9 Jul 93 16:54:37 GMT
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu
Subject: old coots.
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

> Most decent organizational constitutions have a means for
>the removal of a member from the roles for any number of reasons. If
>someone is so disruptive that the organization cannot even conduct
>business, boot their asses out.
>
> There is no reason why these guys, coots or not, should not be
>expected to act like civilized individuals. If they will not, punt them.
>
>Duane WB9OMC

the problem was:

- . it was a public meeting in front of a public body (anyone can attend)
- . he was an unknown to us (we were not ready for "friendly fire")
- . he wasn't a member of any of the established organizations as far as we could tell, so we can't "punt 'em".

one problem amateur radio suffers from is "balkanization" of interests. when you could only do CW and AM, people ended up running into more people more often. now with CW, SSB, AM, FM, RTTY, SSTV, Packet, etc. we see more and more groups locally made up of what are "special interest groups" that care only for their speciality and would sell out other hams that don't share their interest.

and then there's the other break along the lines of traffic, dx, ragchewer, contester, satellite, etc., that can work the same way.

the diversity of amateur radio can be strength, but there seem to be too many that think they can only do one thing (possibly a side effect of recruiting only the wobblies and fossils that are hard pressed to make a long distance telephone call into a ostensibly technical hobby.) not that amateur radio cannot be enjoyed by them, but amateur radio isn't a pasttime for the old, disabled and infirm either.

bill wb9ivr

Date: Fri, 9 Jul 1993 22:22:32 GMT
From: era!era.com!mark@uunet.uu.net

Subject: The Solution (Was: Lost petition for VHF/UHF beams)
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

Those running QRP in the sense-of-humor department should press 'N' now...

Okay, okay... I live in one of those obnoxious neighborhoods where you can hardly step off the back porch without filing an application. And I agree: Those self-righteous-couldn't-get-elected-to-student-government-in-the-ninth-grade-and-coming-back-for-revenge boneheads are choking a real good hobby to death. (Fortunately, I'm renting so it's a temporary situation.) But there's a solution! Recently, I came across the following ad on a bulletin board in the local amateur radio shop:

-----8<-----Trim Here-----

ANNOUNCING THE COMMUNITY OF HAMBURG, VIRGINIA

CQ Builders, Inc., a division of the Intermod Group, is proud to announce the construction of a community of fine homes constructed with the Amateur Radio operator in mind!

All units include:

- Grounded metal screening in all walls
- Three-Phase power in all rooms including bathrooms
- Microwave oven on 2.4 GHz with RF output connector
- Pre-planted radials on single-family units

Come see some of the streets we've already finished or are in the process of building...

ARQ Avenue Modern ranch homes with RS232C cabling between every room in the house.

Cellular Court Guest residences for visiting non-ham friends and relatives. Cell phones provided free of charge to yuppies feeling out of place.

Desense Drive Spacious water-cooled villas for those who run QRO whether it's needed or not.

Portable Place Residences featuring 12V DC power only.

Reactance Road Townhomes with extra-narrow lots for those who run verticals or like to try and load up their lawn furniture.

TVI Terrace Fine apartment living for stations operating
exclusively on 6 meters. All units feature
ten-foot clearances on the balcony suitable
for half-wave verticals.

(Switch to 4-point type here)

THE FINE PRINT

Signing the deed to a Hamburg property indicates your agreement to the following:

1. LICENSING. You must hold an FCC-issued amateur license at the time of purchase and continue to do so until such time as you sell said property to another FCC-licensed Amateur. Revocation of your license by the FCC or other lame excuses like loss of interest in the hobby indicate a willingness to liquidate said property within ten days of such action.
2. ANTENNA RESTRICTIONS. Your property shall, from 24 hours past the time you move in until 3 hours past the time you move out, display at least one outdoor antenna tuned for use on the Amateur bands. Feed points shall be made available to members of the community net for random resonance inspections. Failure to display said antennas will result in fines and replacement of your station with an extremely ratty boat anchor or HW-101 (at our option) purchased at a recent hamfest.
3. TOWERS. Towers erected on your property shall extend a minimum of 25 feet above the roofline of any structures on said property, including previously-erected towers. Crank-up towers shall not be lowered except for routine maintenance, and then only upon permission from the community net.
4. COMMUNITY NET. Participation in the community net is mandatory. Said net takes place on the third Wednesday of each month at 0000Z on 1295.30 AM simplex except when the moon is in its waning phase, in which case the net shall be on 902 Mhz spread spectrum at 1845Z. Failure to check into the net indicates a willingness to operate the full duration of the next major DX contest using QRP and a severely mismatched random wire. (Residents of Desense Drive may simply bypass their linear amplifiers but must run at least 100 watts.)
5. RF EMISSIONS. Residents of each unit shall, on a monthly basis, submit proof of at least one hour of emissions on the Amateur bands

from their properties daily, Field Day excepted.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CATCH US ON 3818 OR WRITE:

CQ BUILDERS
1010 Disk Drive
Radiopolis, MA 14313

-----8<-----Trim Here-----

So where do I sign?

- Mark

```
.....
: Mark A. Feit          KD4TAJ : Internet: mark@era.com      :
: Engineering Research Associates : USENET: ...!uunet!era!mark :
.....
"Reality is a crutch for those who can't handle Amateur Radio."
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Date: Fri, 9 Jul 1993 22:45:35 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-
state.edu!cs.utexas.edu!asuvax!ennews!anasazi!misty!john@network.UCSD.EDU
To: ham-policy@ucsd.edu

References <C9K996.7vL@fc.hp.com>, <john.741668917@misty>,
<wb9omc.742151353@dynamo.ecn.purdue.edu>
Subject : Re: NQ0I Case : HF Vertical Antennas

wb9omc@dynamo.ecn.purdue.edu (Duane P Mantick) writes:

]john@anasazi.com (John R. Moore) writes:

]>Finally, a flame...

]>We are behaving just like every other special interest group in appealing
]>to the Federal Government to resolve what is a LOCAL problem. I don't know
]>about you, but I would just as soon the Federal Government didn't tell my
]>local government how to operate (except for upholding the constitution).
]>--

] I must disagree.

] Amateur Radio is not licensed by local government, but by the

]Federal agency known as the FCC. If we put ANY part of our hobby in the hands
]of local government, we will have as many different rules and regs to follow
]as there ARE local governments.

The same could be said of ANY activity in the country. Would you say that zoning should be done by the Feds? How about local schools? Where do you draw the line?

The FCC has the authority to regulate ham radio because the radio waves cross state boundaries. I think it is an improper reading of the constitution to construe that to mean they can specify MINIMUM antenna structures, etc.

] Indeed, it would be far better for not only the hams in general
]but I suspect local folks if the FCC were to take charge of the antenna
]issue. It seems to me that most of the local ordinances regarding this
]issue are more about harrassment and commercial interest than they are
]about any serious threat to the public safety (or worse yet, some
]idiotic notion of the "aesthetic"....it would/will be far LESS aesthetic
]to have hundreds of dead bodies lying around after a tornado hit than
]to have had a few ham antennas sticking up and being used to give that
]little bit extra warning that could have saved those lives.).

I think you are overly impressed with the importance of ham radio communications that require big antennas. About the only thing of importance in a tornado is VHF, and the VHF systems are likely to be on other structures where the aesthetic rules don't make much different.

If we were to use your line of reasoning, where do we stop? How about all the other aspects of life that we could do otherwise to make us better able to deal with disasters? Should the federal government require that no trees be near houses or roads just in case a tornado might blow them down and cause damage?

] As for appealing as a special interest group, we hams are gonna
]have to learn to play some better hardball than we have up to now.
]In the face of increasing spectrum pressure, we need to be able to
]have some means of justifying ourselves if we plan on continuing to
]HAVE a hobby in the future. If we allow some stupid local ordinance
]crap to prevent us from being able to *adequately* provide ANY
]emergency communications, then we are shooting ourselves in the feet
]on justification, and we are likely to lose far more than just 220 to 222.

In general I agree with this, except that you simply are wrong about our emergency communications facilities. It takes very few ham stations with big antennae to handle the total communications requirement of any emergency. The rest can be handled by HT's to repeaters on water towers, TV antennas, hospitals, mountains, etc.

I think it is just the opposite. If we take an "in your face" attitude towards our neighbors and their aesthetic concerns (however misguided we feel they are), they may just ask their congressmen to abolish ham radio altogether. The emergency service aspect is important, but not to most americans - and they have the vote!

] There are several areas that need attention. The antenna
]issue is one of them. Hams need to get themselves exempted from
]outrageous scanner laws in some states as we are exempted here in
]Indiana. There are horror stories about hams having HT's confiscated
]by overzealous cops trying to enforce some stupid portable scanner law.

I STRONGLY DISAGREE! There is no reason at all that we should be exempted. What we SHOULD do is get the stupid laws repealed in the first place! There is nothing we do that should give us more privileges to listen to the police or cellular phone or whatever than other citizens have. As far as laws that prohibit within-amateur-band equipment, I agree with you.

] We need to do some butt-kicking in Washington with our
]congresscritters to get the FCC off their backsides and get some
]of our bad-apples OFF the air. Clowns like this moron on 28.325
]using every foul word and phrase in the book need to be SHUT DOWN
]permanently and thrown in jail if that's what it takes to get them
]off the air. The more of these morons that can be heard, the worse
]we ALL look in the public eye, for THAT is what they'll remember, NOT
]the 98 or 99 percent of decent law-abiding hams.

Have you ever tried to do this with congressmen? I have. I live in Barry Goldwater's state, and we had severe jamming. We sent numerous petitions and affidavits with many signatures to Barry, and the only result was that the case was moved from the local level (where the local FCC knew what sort of scum we were dealing with) to the federal level!

What we should do is try to get congress to provide more funds for the law enforcement arms of government in general (with a few exceptions, such as BATF and DEA). The problems with FCC enforcement are primarily economic - the FCC doesn't have the resources to deal with them.

] Now having said all of the above, I will also say that I am one of
]the first who will say that we should shut down the avenues of influence
]for special interests. BUT - only when everyone gets decent representation
]out of his or her congresscritter can that happen. And we are gonna have to
]elect far better congresscritters than we have been for that to happen.

Well, by that standard, our neighbors who dislike our antennas will probably outnumber us. Thus, THEY will get the representation and we will lose our antennas. Again, the best way to deal with these antenna problems is LOCAL.

] In order for Amateur Radio to not be considered just another special
]interest, major organizations like the ARRL need to start doing some outreach,
]and I mean MAJOR outreach efforts to get hams motivated into being more
]active in public safety and public relations. In order to do that,
]ARRL members need to get their directors to lay off the trivial tripe
]reagarding "what column should get published in QST" and get on with
]something current and important for ALL of Amateur Radio. The same thing
]goes for the rest of the ham groups.

Frankly, there is little more we could do in the public safety arena. Public
safety agencies have limitted use for volunteers, and in many states they
end up trying to fend off well meaning but unneeded amateurs.

The main thing we can do, other than talk to boats on HF, is to handle
overflow traffic (such as Health and Welfare) that their systems don't
have the capacity for. Let's not get too overblown about how "important"
we are!

] Am I opinionated? You're damn right I am. It's because I am sick
]and tired of seeing some of my fellow hams getting screwed by some
]asswipe local beaucrocat who has nothing better to do while sucking up
]taxpayer money to sit on his butt.

Well, then join the crowd that is against the growth of government in general.
Ham radio is a nit on a pimple on the butt of creation when viewed in that
light!

--

John Moore NJ7E, 7525 Clearwater Pkwy, Scottsdale, AZ 85253 (602-951-9326)
john@anasazi.com ncar!noao!asuvax!anasaz!john anasaz!john@asuvax.eas.asu.edu
"Modern liberals are the termites in the structure of our society."

End of Ham-Policy Digest V93 #221
